THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government is considering the question of bringing in a legislation for the establishment of Gram Nyayalayas at the intermediate Panchayat level. The proposed Gram Nyayalayas shall consist of a Nyayadhikari who shall be qualified to be eligible to be appointed as a Judicial Magistrate of the first class and belonging to a cadre of Nyayadhikaris constituted by the Governor in consultation with the State Public Service Commission and the Chief Justice of the High Court. The Gram Nyayalayas would be holding the courts at their head quarters and also as Mobile Courts in the close proximity of the places where the parties ordinarily reside in their territorial jurisdiction. The Gram Nyayalayas will follow summary procedure and have a time bound plan of disposal of the civil and criminal cases coming before them. The manpower required for the proposed Gram Nyayalayas shall be in addition to the existing judicial officers of the subordinate judiciary.

(c) and (d) Under the pilot project on computerization of city courts in four metropolitan cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata 700 courts have been computerized. As an extension of this project, 900 city courts have also been covered in capital cities of all the States and UTs or in places where the principal seat of the High Courts is located.

(e) E-Committee was constituted by the Government to advice on technological communication and management related changes in the Indian Judiciary. The Committee has submitted its report on National Policy and Action Plan for implementation of information and Communication Technology in the entire Indian Judiciary. It has estimated a sum of Rs. 854 crore to implement the project of computerization of entire judicial system of the country over a period of 5 years. The project was launched at a function in New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister on 5th October, 2005.

Law on accountability of Judges

159. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are seriously considering to

enact a law to ensure accountability of judges and judicial officers as a part of its efforts to reform judicial administration in the country;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) whether Government are going to amend the existing Judges Inquiry Act, 1968, or, to enact altogether a fresh legislation on this subject?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) Government proposes to set up a National Judicial Council which will receive complaints against the Judges and conduct investigation as to whether the complaint is frivolous, vexatious or is not made in good faith or whether there are sufficient grounds for investigation into the complaint.

The Judicial Officers are governed by the conduct rules as made applicable by the respective State Governments to which their services belong to.

(b) and (c) The modalities for setting up of the National Judicial Council, in consultation with all the stake holders, are being worked out.

Setting up of Family Courts

160. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of family courts set-up in various parts of the country so far, State-wise;

(b) the number of cases disposed off by the family courts during each of the last three years;

(c) whether Government have issued any direction to the State Governments to set up family courts in each district within the scheduled timeframe;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the States which have set up family courts in each districts as on date; and

(f) the steps taken by Government to overcome the problems being faced in setting up of family courts in each districts in the country?